

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 03889 050948Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /079 W
-----024807 050951Z /14

R 050739Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4029

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 3889

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN DIALOGUE

REF: (A) STATE 105583 (B) STATE 113017

1. ECON COUNSELOR CONTACTED KASSIM HUSSEIN, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ASEAN, MFA, BEFORE RECEIPT OF REF B. KASSIM REITERATED THAT GOM PREFERS AUGUST 3-4 DATES AND HAD NO DOUBT THAT THEY WOULD BE CONFIRMED FOR THE US-ASEAN MEETING BY ASEAN MINISTERS EITHER AT JUNE 14-16 MINISTERIAL MEETING, OR THROUGH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMUNICATION. HE ASKED ABOUT THE U.S. REACTION TO THESE DATES. ECON COUNSELOR SAID THEY WERE ACCEPTABLE TO US AS WE HAD, IN FACT, PROPOSED THEM AS AN ALTERNATIVE.

2. REGARDING THE LEVEL OF THE MEETING, KASSIM HUSSEIN SAID IT APPEARED THAT ASEAN WOULD AGREE TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL, BUT THERE WAS STILL SOME INDECISION ON THE PART OF SEVERAL MEMBERS. AGAIN HE BELIEVED FINAL WORD ON THIS WOULD COME IN MID-JUNE.
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ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT IT TOO EARLY TO SAY WHO WOULD LEAD THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION, KASSIM SAID THE OTHER ASEAN MEMBERS WERE LEANING TOWARD FOREIGN MINISTERS. HE, PERSONALLY, THOUGHT ECONOMIC MINISTERS WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE, GIVEN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE MEETING. HE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT THE US PREFERRED FOREIGN MINISTERS.

ECON COUNSELOR INFORMED HIM THAT THAT WAS NOT
THE CASE.

3. WE PLAN ON PASSING COPY OF THE RESPONSE TO
GOP CONTAINED IN REF B TO KASSIM HUSSEIN.
MILLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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